

23 April 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: William Beecher Story in 23 April New York Times

1. At the 23 April Executive Committee meeting, I raised the matter of the Beecher story appearing on the front page of the 23 April edition of the New York Times (under the headline "Cambodia to Get Rifles From US") and expressed concern that this story appeared to be based in significant measure on deliberate leaks from highly classified official traffic.

2. I cannot be positive whether I have or have not read the actual text of the Friday, 17 April, instruction cabled to [REDACTED]. As you know, these NODIS cables are not routed through or retained in my office. The paragraph in Mr. Beecher's story discussing this cable certainly sounded familiar but I cannot attest to more than that. I can certify without reservation, however, that I have not discussed the text or substance of this or any other official document or discussion dealing with Cambodia with any journalist or other unauthorized person. In fact, I have not discussed sensitive Cambodian matters with anyone at all outside the very small circle of senior officers you have convened to assist you in servicing the President's requirements.

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[REDACTED]  
George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant For Vietnamese Affairs

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